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Serial No.: 10/036,547
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E30-050CON2 (96-031CON2)

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 through 13 and 15 through 17 in favor of new claims 18 through 32 as follows:

Claims 1- 17 (canceled)

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18 (New). ^{At data network comprising} A data node at each of at least first and second sites in a data network, wherein ^{each} (at least two of the) data nodes includes a cache management system, the cache management system at ^{each} said data node comprising:

10 A) a cache memory device coupled to the data network, for storing at least two different cache memory management methods for controlling communications with other data nodes in the data network, and

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15 B) a cache memory manager connected to said cache memory device for controlling transfers with other ^{a corresponding} (data nodes in response to one of the at least two different cache memory management methods ^{from corresponding} in said cache memory device) and wherein the cache memory management methods used at ^{one} said data node and another data node on the data network are different.

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19 (New). A ^{each} data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said cache memory manager ^(at said data node) includes method

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selection means for selecting one of the cache memory
management methods ^{store a connection} in said cache memory device for controlling
^{the cache memory device} ~~communications network communications~~ ^{that} at said data node.

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20 (New). A data node as recited in claim 19 wherein said
cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring
means for monitoring operations at a respective node and said
method selection means ^{at that data node} responds to said ^{data} monitoring means.

10 21 (New). A data node as recited in claim 19 wherein said
cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring
means ^{a reply} (at said data node) for receiving commands from other data
nodes and said method selection means ^{the} responds to the received
commands.

15 22 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of
said cache memory management methods is a least recently used
cache management method.

20 23 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of
said cache memory management methods is a data usage cache
management method.

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24 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a store-through cache management method.

5 25 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a pre-fetch cache management method.

10 26 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is an indexing cache management method.

15 27 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a B-tree cache management method.

20 28 (New). A data node as recited in claim 21 wherein one of said cache memory management methods is a charging cache management method.

29 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said cache memory manager includes means, response to messages received over the network, for selecting one of the cache memory

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store a computer
management methods in said cache memory device for controlling
the cache memory device at said data node
communications with the network.

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5 30 (New). A data node as recited in claim 18 wherein said
cache memory device includes *means* storage for storing least
recently used, data usage, store-through, pre-fetch, indexing,
Btree and charge cache memory management methods as the at
least two cache memory management methods.

10 31 (New). A data node as recited in claim 30 wherein said
cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring
each
means (at said data node) *a computer* for monitoring operations at said data
node and *the* *the com* said method selection means at said data node responds
to said monitoring means.

15 32 (New). A data node as recited in claim 30 wherein said
cache memory manager (at said data node) includes monitoring
each
means (at said data node) *data* for receiving commands from other nodes
and method selection means at *that* said data node for responding to
20 the received commands by selecting one of the cache memory
a computer
management methods in said cache memory device.